

REVIEW OF BATTLE

HUNS FORCED TO DO SOMETHING TO BOLSTER UP MILITARY DOMINATION.

MANY CHANGES INEVITABLE

Statement Declares It Would Be Premature to Express an Opinion Regarding Tactical Phases of Operations Now Going on in West.

Washington, D. C.—The German offensive, says the war department's weekly communique, proves that the German militarists, no longer able to control the German people by political maneuvers, have been forced to attempt a gigantic feat of arms to maintain their domination.

While the great attack has been able to make headway, no definite enveloping movement has been outlined, the communique says, and it would be premature to express opinions on the tactical phases with a combative situation inevitably changing in a battle of such magnitude.

The assault launched by the Germans against the British front has reopened the fighting season in the west," says the communique.

"This operation confirms to us that the German higher command, unable to control the strategic situation through political agencies, as has been unceasingly attempted during the past four months, has been forced to engage in a desperate military venture in an effort to retain its domination over the peoples of the central empires and, if possible, force a victorious peace by the fortune of arms.

"The German attack began with a brief but overwhelming artillery bombardment with high explosive and gas shells at dawn on March 21, in the rolling country north of Oise, 94 miles northeast of Paris.

"From Croisilles, south of Vendeuil, a distance of 47 miles, the Germans concentrated this preliminary barrage in which a number of Austrian batteries participated.

"At the same time hostile artillery was active in the Ypres-La Bassée region.

"The German infantry divisions thereupon advanced to the attack along the flanks of the salient in front of Cambrai. Furious fighting continues on the northern flank between Croisilles, Bullecourt and Lagnicourt; on the southern, along the line Gouzeaucourt-Hargicourt-Leverguier, and extending across the Crozat canal to beyond Le Fore.

"The British forces are heavily engaged. While the Germans have been able to make headway, no definite enveloping movement is as yet outlined. "It would be premature to express an opinion regarding the tactical phases of the operations now taking place. We must expect further changes in the combative situation, which are inevitable in a battle of such magnitude.

"Enemy casualties have been exceedingly heavy.

"Our own forces in training in Lorraine are still holding on to the trenches northeast of Badenville which were captured last week. In this region our artillery is continuing to batter the German lines and a number of scouting parties which have penetrated the German positions report that the enemy works have been considerably damaged.

"In our sector north of Toul our artillery has successfully bombarded enemy works and billets behind their lines.

"Simultaneous with the German offensive operations in the west we note further hostile activity in Italy, which may be the prelude of an offensive in this theater.

"Peace between Russian and the central powers has been ratified at Moscow. However, the enemy is continuing to advance into Russia. Petrograd has been evacuated. The Russian general staff has moved from Smolensk to Moscow. While the Germans have made no serious attempt to advance in Esthonia and Linolia beyond the line held previously, it is reported that they are now again on the march."

The review outlines briefly the principal events of the week on other fronts.

Irish Concrete Vessel.
Belfast.—The keel of the first concrete vessel to be built in Ireland has been laid in a new shipyard on the north Irish coast. It will be an ocean going vessel of 1,000 tons and the first of six ordered by the government.

Spanish Liner Turned Back.
Cadiz, Spain.—The Spanish transportation liner Montevideo, which sailed for New York, was held up by a German submarine and forced to return here.

I. W. W. Under Arrest.
St. Maries, Id.—Warrants charging criminal syndicalism have been sworn out by the prosecuting attorney in the cases of 45 I. W. W.'s held here by state guardsmen. Sheriff E. B. Noland announced.

To Comb Out Miners.
London.—It is understood that the miners' federation has accepted the government's proposal regarding the combing out of men for military service.

BRITISH CHECK

GERMAN DRIVE

Huns Pay Fearful Price for Gains—Haig Wins Back Ground.

FOE TAKES 16,000 CAPTIVES?

Berlin Claims Capture of Large Number of Prisoners—Kaiser Using 600,000 Men and Thousands of Guns in Greatest Battle.

London, March 25.—Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters wires:

"The whole thing is too big to be able even to sketch or visualize easily. Thus far the enemy has paid a colossal price for such small gains as represent the fruits of his mighty effort."

The great battle on the western front continues, the war office reports. The British are holding the enemy.

Sixteen thousand prisoners and 200 guns have been captured by the Germans, according to a German official communication received by wireless.

In a battle that has raged in ferocity any that has preceded it during three and a half years of warfare the British, on a 50-mile front, have withstood a great German offensive in its initial stages.

As the result of the struggle on that part of the front just west of Cambrai, where the fighting was apparently hottest, the British line has nowhere been broken and Field Marshal Haig's men have inflicted frightful casualties on the enemy.

There is no data upon which it is possible to estimate the success attained by the Germans to the south, but names of towns where the armies were battling on Friday show that on the northern side of the salient the Germans bent the British line back about two and a half miles.

It was reported that St. Ledger was the scene of a hard struggle and that Doghies had been retaken by the British. These points are about four kilometers, or 2.48 miles, back of the British lines as they stood before the attack began. Berlin claims that British first line positions from Arras to La Fere were captured.

Forty divisions, or about 600,000 Teutonic troops are in the fight. The total number of cannon the Germans are employing cannot be estimated, but unofficial reports say that there were 1,000 guns on one small sector. Austrian and Bulgarian troops have made their appearance.

The attack was launched under the eyes of Emperor William, Field Marshal von Hindenburg and General Ludendorff.

British Army Headquarters in France, March 25.—The Germans continued their assault against the positions in the Cambrai sector, notably in the region of Croisilles and Hargicourt.

On the southern battlefield a bitter struggle was waged. One of the most brilliant British counter-attacks occurred at Doghies. The British advanced with infantry and tanks at 7 p. m. and after fierce fighting drove out the enemy.

Vigorous counter-attacks restored several of the positions which the British had abandoned temporarily.

The Germans in many sections attacked in three waves of infantry, followed up by shock troops. As a result they suffered very heavy casualties.

The heavily massed German artillery has been badly punished.

U. S. SHIP SEIZES RAIDER

American Cruiser Captures Craft Manned With All-German Crew—Taken to Pacific Port.

A Pacific Port, March 25.—With a captured German raider in tow, a United States cruiser reached this port Sunday. The captured vessel is the Alexander Agassiz, for several years in the service of a biological institute at La Jolla, Cal. The capture was made, it is said, last Tuesday off Mazatlan, Mex. The Alexander Agassiz carries an all-German crew and had been outfitted for service as a raider on Pacific commerce. The Agassiz was sold to the Pacific Trading company. Although comparatively small, the Agassiz is said to have been capable of sinking any merchant ship in the Pacific. One report indicates that the raider was outfitted in Mexico.

Washington, March 25.—The navy department issued this statement:

"The navy department announced that a small American vessel, the Agassiz, which sailed from a west Mexican port, has been seized at sea and taken to a Pacific port for investigation.

To Clean Out Bureaus.
Washington, March 25.—A general weeding out of swivel-chair officers, with which the various bureaus of the war department is cluttered up, has been ordered by Maj. Gen. Peyton C. March, acting chief of staff.

League Avows Its Loyalty.
St. Paul, Minn., March 25.—Resolutions pledging loyalty to the government and commending President Wilson's statement of war aims were adopted by the National Nonpartisan league at a meeting here.

HUNS OPEN BIG

BATTLE IN WEST

Penetrate British Front Lines Between Scarpe and Vendguil.

HEAVY LOSSES FOR ENEMY

Teutons Start Offensive With Heavy Artillery Bombardment on Fifty-Mile Front—Attack is No Surprise to the Allies.

London, March 25.—Field Marshal Haig's report from British headquarters in France describes the German offensive as comprising an intense bombardment by the artillery and a powerful infantry attack on a front of about fifty miles. Some of the British positions were penetrated, but the German losses are declared to have been exceptionally heavy. On no part of the long front of the attack did the Germans attain their objective. A powerful infantry attack was launched by the enemy on a front of over fifty miles, extending from the River Oise in the neighborhood of La Fere to the Sennese river, about Croisilles.

London, March 25.—By employing masses of troops, supported by a great weight of artillery, the Germans appear to have penetrated the British front line at certain points between the Scarpe and Vendguil, says Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters.

"There are unconfirmed rumors that the enemy has employed tanks."

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The German attack against the British lines was on a larger scale than any made thus far during the war on any part of the western front, Andrew Bonar Law, spokesman of the government, told the house of commons. "Our outpost troops," he added, "have been withdrawn on one part of the line which was very lightly held."

"This was nothing more than was expected, and was in accordance with instructions. There was nothing in the nature of a surprise about the attack."

"Our staff and the Versailles council naturally have been considering what might happen in the event of an attack."

British Army Headquarters in France, March 25.—The Germans launched a heavy attack against the British lines in the afternoon over a wide front in and near the Cambrai sector and the assault bears all the earmarks of being the beginning of the enemy's much-heralded grand offensive.

Hard fighting is proceeding from a point north of Lagnicourt southward to Gauche wood, just below Gouzeaucourt.

The attack was preceded by a heavy bombardment from guns of all calibers and the duel between the opposing heavy batteries has been rocking the countryside for hours.

The bombardment began in earnest at five o'clock Thursday morning and about five hours later the enemy forces hurled themselves on the British front line trenches north of Lagnicourt and Louverval, the latter place lying due west of Bourles.

Near Reims, too, the French were subjected to an assault, but the artillery bore the burden of the fighting.

Nothing has been reported as to attacks on the lines held by the Americans. It had been expected that the Germans would make an assault on the American-held trenches in the Lorraine and Toul sectors.

That such an attack may yet be launched, and with only slight artillery preparation, is within the possibilities.

Following a heavy bombardment, the Germans launched an infantry attack on a big scale on the north front of Lagnicourt to Gauche wood. Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters telegraphed.

The official statement issued by the British war office says:

"A heavy bombardment was opened by the enemy shortly before dawn this morning against our whole front from the neighborhood of Vendguil, south of St. Quentin, to the River Scarpe. The bombardment shook doors and windows of Dover and other towns on the southeast coast of England."

Berlin, March 25.—"Between Cambrai and La Fere," says the report from German headquarters, "we penetrated two portions of the English positions."

Won't Quit Aland Islands.
Amsterdam, March 25.—The main committee of the German reichstag has voted, 12 to 10, against a motion to evacuate the Aland islands and not interfere with the internal affairs of Finland by the dispatch of troops.

Morant, War Critic, Is Dead.
London, March 25.—The death of Major Morant, long military correspondent of the Tageblatt of Berlin, is announced. For years Major Morant was perhaps the most widely quoted of the German military writers.

DANIEL C. ROPER



This is the man who takes your income tax money. He is Daniel C. Roper, Uncle Sam's collector of internal revenue. Mr. Roper is just at this time one of the busiest men in the country. This photograph was made in his office in the treasury building.

DUTCH SHIPS SEIZED

PRESIDENT SAYS SEIZURE NECESSARY AS WAR MEASURE.

Allies Also Take Similar Action, Seizing 1,000,000 Much Needed Tonnage.

Washington, March 22.—The president issued his proclamation on Wednesday night taking over 600,000 tons of Dutch shipping within the territorial waters of the United States.

At the same time similar action was taken by the allied governments on 400,000 tons of Dutch ships in their respective ports.

The navy department, as announced by Secretary Daniels, takes over the vessels. He intimated that for the present they will remain under the navy's control.

This action indicates that the ships will be immediately put into service in the most vital war work of the moment—getting men to France and food to the allies.

The Netherlands flag fluttered down at sunset Thursday from the jackstaves of vessels throughout the world, totaling 1,000,000 of much needed tonnage.

On Thursday the Stars and Stripes, the red ensign of England and the tricolors of France and Italy were hoisted and the ships will start their service in democracy's cause.

This action ends the German grip on some of the finest ship tonnage in the world, held idle because of Germany's coercive measures against her little neighbor.

SEEK PARDON FOR MOONEY

Executive Clemency Now Only Hope of Convicted San Francisco Bomb Thrower.

San Francisco, March 23.—Application for the pardon of Thomas J. Mooney, sentenced to death in connection with the preparedness day bomb explosion here in July, 1916, will be made to Governor Stephens. The supreme court's affirmation of the sentence becomes effective March 31. Maxwell McNutt, counsel for Mooney, said that after that date there will be no possibility of reopening the case in the courts, and Mooney's fate will rest entirely in the governor's hands.

HINDENBURG DIRECTS DRIVE

Great German General and War Lord Personally in Charge of German Offensive.

Amsterdam, March 23.—Although the army group engaged in the attack against the British between the Scarpe river and Venheuil, on the western front, is under command of Prince Rupprecht, it was reported from a German source that the German operations were really being directed by Von Hindenburg and Von Ludendorff in person.

MANLEY DEATH LIST GROWS

Three or Four Members of Destroyer Crew Reported Injured Die of Wounds.

Washington, March 23.—The navy department was informed of three or four deaths among members of the crew of the destroyer Manley, who were reported injured in the explosion of a depth charge when the destroyer collided March 19 with a British warship. An officer and three men were killed in the accident.

Reindeer Meat Is Coming.

Nome, March 25.—About 500 dressed reindeer will be shipped to the food markets of "the States" on the first boat leaving here after the breakup of the ice on Bering sea. All winter a marketing firm has been slaughtering.

Senate for Casualty List.

Washington, March 25.—A resolution asking the war department to advise the senate as to its reasons for not making public the addresses of American soldiers killed and wounded abroad, was adopted by the senate.

NEWS OF NEBRASKA

Items of Interest Gathered From Many Points

The new Union Pacific depot at North Platte was opened with a ball under the management of the Red Cross chapter.

A movement is on foot to close up the Burlington passenger depot at Omaha and run all trains on that line into the Union station.

In the War Savings stamp drive at school district No. 12 at Eustis the district oversubscribed its quota of \$12,000 more than 50 per cent.

The sum of \$3,500 was raised for the American Red Cross at an auction at Uehling. Uehling has a population of 300.

Nebraska is far in the lead of all states in the union in the sale of War Stamps, according to Washington reports.

A legislative committee of sixteen members is at work for the ratification of the federal prohibitory amendment during the special session of the legislature at Lincoln.

The agricultural department of the Hastings high school is the first to be recognized under the Smith-Hughes act by the state board of vocational education.

Figures prepared by Secretary Bernecker of the State Board of Equalization, as reported by the various county clerks, show \$30,359,463 was the amount raised by taxation for all purposes in the state for 1917.

Incensed by alleged pro-German proclivities of Paul G. Kline, wealthy farmer, residing near Waterloo, 50 citizens of the town raided his farm and freely applied yellow paint to every one of his farm buildings.

Records in Governor Neville's office show that for the month of January the voluntary enlistments in Nebraska were 146, for the month of February 384, and for the first 15 days of March 290.

Patriotic farmers who have wheat on hand are earnestly urged by the State Council of Defense to market it during the next few weeks to enable the government to meet necessary food demands.

Eighty-four patriotic farmers of the vicinity of Howells enriched the Red Cross by \$2,845.17 by shipping a consignment of hogs to the South Omaha market. The porkers were auctioned off and brought \$17.35 per hundred pounds.

Between 15,000 and 20,000 Nebraskans whose income places them within the provisions of the income tax law have not yet sent in their income tax statements, according to Collector Loomis at Omaha. "As sure as fate, those fellows will be prosecuted, if they fail to get them in by April 1," said Mr. Loomis.

The extraordinary session of the Nebraska legislature is asked to pass ten new laws by Governor Neville, the most important being measures to provide means of taking the soldier vote and repealing of the Mockett law. Other matters to come up will provide for the passage of acts to punish sedition and sabotage, legalizing the home guard; an act to protect civil rights of Nebraskans in military service and an act to submit to the voters at the next regular election an amendment to the state constitution affecting declarant voters. The session is expected to be a long one and all members are paying their own expenses.

Farmers of this state at a conference at Omaha organized the Nebraska Farmers' War Council, the first of its kind in the United States. The council was organized to back up the government in the third Liberty loan campaign, and all other government activities that may have need of the services of this body. Officers of the new organization are: Chairman, C. H. Gustafson, president Nebraska Farmers' Union; director, O. G. Smith, president Nebraska Farmers' Congress; director, E. R. Danielson, secretary state board of agriculture; secretary, Frank G. Odell, vice president International Farm Congress. Every farmer in the state will be given an opportunity to pledge his support to the government, and practically 100 per cent response is expected by the officers.

The Nebraska supreme court has ruled that the State Board of Education has no right to grant mineral leases on land already leased for agricultural purposes. The decision invalidates thousands of acres of state school land leased for mineral purposes.

According to a statement issued by the department of agriculture at Washington, wheat holdings in Nebraska mills and elevators on March 1 were 826,650 bushels, over 8,000,000 less than on March 1, 1917.

Men who have entered the military service of the United States since May 18, 1917, when the selective draft law became effective, are not members of the "regular army" and are therefore entitled to vote under the provisions of the Nebraska soldiers' voting law, according to a decision handed down by the Nebraska supreme court.

L. C. Christy, who has been engaged as a county farm demonstrator in Kansas for the last few days, has been employed as county agent for Dodge county.

School district No. 180, Callaway, with a quota of \$11,800, subscribed for \$36,000 War Savings stamps.

The new Methodist Episcopal church at Crawford, built at a cost of about \$20,000, was dedicated just recently.

The Nebraska soldier voting bill which the legislature in special session at Lincoln is expected to pass, will be strictly a voting by mail plan.

A load of hogs donated to the Red Cross by citizens of Fullerton were sold at South Omaha and brought \$3,035.50.

The Gage county board of supervisors appropriated \$2,500 toward the farm demonstrator's salary during this year.

The Masonic lodge of Niobrara gave a patriotic program, followed by the unveiling of a service flag with 12 stars.

Data secured by State Labor Commissioner Norman show that 3,000 Nebraskans have enrolled to aid Uncle Sam in building ships.

Six seats in the house and one in the senate of the state legislature, in session at Lincoln, are vacant because of members having resigned.

The mother's pension law was sustained by the supreme court in a decision reversing the opinion of the Saline county district court in a suit brought against the county.

Wholesalers and jobbers are prohibited from purchasing flour by the food administration unless the requisite amount of substitutes are included in the purchase.

The annual Beef Producers' day will be held at the state university farm, Lincoln, April 5. At this time the winter cattle feeding experiment will have been completed and the results will be available for discussion.

According to R. S. Hiltner, government chemist, there are 125,000,000 pounds of potatoes stored in Nebraska and will rot where they are unless efforts are immediately made to convert them into potato flour.

A German language paper, the Nebraska Echo, published at Lincoln, is conducting a campaign against the repeal of the Mockett law, which requires teaching of German in public schools of this state.

The United States supreme court affirmed the decision of the Nebraska supreme court, awarding \$13,500 damages for the death of Charles M. Cradit, a brakeman on the Union Pacific, who was killed in a freight collision near Sidney.

The grim reality of war was brought home to Omahans when word was received by Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Hughes of the death of their son, Corporal R. G. Hughes, 19 years of age. He was killed in action in France March 17.

Troop 5, Omaha Boy Scouts, won the silk flag offered by President Wilson to the troop selling the greatest amount of Liberty bonds of the second issue. The troop sold 308 bonds for a total of \$185,750. A silk flag was offered every state in the union by the president.

Announcement has been made that beet sugar factories of Nebraska and Colorado, which are standing idle at this time, will soon be manufacturing potato flour, and it is hoped this will save great quantities of "spuds" stored in this state.

Nebraska farmers can get only 100 pounds of flour in exchange for wheat at the mill, according to an agreement reached by members of the Nebraska Millers' association during a conference at Omaha. This amount can only be secured when a like quantity of substitutes are purchased.

There will be no more Illinois coal for Nebraska consumers, and the 750,000 tons of coal from that state which has been used each winter by people of this state, in the future must be produced by mines in nearby states, according to an announcement from Washington and from the office of the state fuel administrator at Omaha.

The wonderful showing made in Nebraska in the recent war savings stamp campaign clearly shows that this great commonwealth is in the lead of all states in the union in war activities. It is believed that when mail reports are in every county in the state will show an oversubscription in the baby bond drive. For months the Nebraska war stamps sales per capita have been greater by almost 100 per cent than any other state in the union.

Three carloads of hogs, a building lot and articles of all descriptions were donated to the Red Cross and sold at auction at Oakland. The sale netted \$25,000. A goose egg sold for \$1,500 and a silver dollar brought \$200. The lot was bought by people of Oakland as a site for a library.

The question of establishing sorghum plants in Dakota and Seward county is being agitated by agricultural agents of the two counties. The object is to do away with the necessity of using only sugar for sweetening.

The agricultural extension service of the State University at Lincoln is receiving suggestions for a statewide "acre day" every week, when stores and business houses would close down and every man man would tend an acre of ground in the state. John Wickstrom of Riverton is originator of the idea.

Nebraska now has a woman for assistant attorney general. Mrs. Josephine Wild, legal stenographer, having been appointed successor to Assistant Attorney General Munger, who has been transferred to Omaha.